

## Innovative Solutions to Admission Workload: C902

### Baylor Regional Medical Center at Grapevine



2015 ANCC National Magnet Conference  
October 9, 2015: 08:00-09:00  
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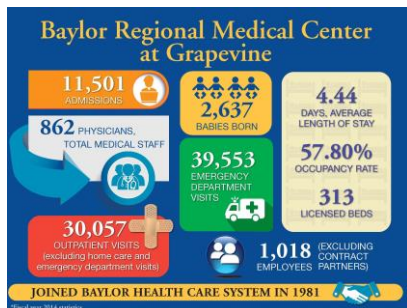
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## Hospital Overview




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## Key Service Lines




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## Recognized by the Industry



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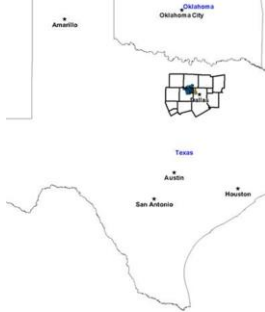
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## Our Service Area



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## The Call to Action

### • Inpatient Admission Workload/Patient Safety

- AHRQ Patient Safety Feedback
  - Admissions process took 35-45 minutes to complete
  - Batched from 1500 to 2100 – overwhelmed at change of shift
  - Feeling short staffed due to ADT index
- NDNQI RN Satisfaction supported the above
- Nursing Forums
- Q12 surveys speak to admission workload burden
- Beth's Bistros and unit rounding
- No “Golden Hour” at change of shift
- Right patient, right bed/unit . . . every time
  - Measure reduction of RRT within 24 hours of admission

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## The Call to Action

### • ED Admission Workload

- EHR incompatibility – MedHost to Allscripts
- Orders lost in admission process
- Delay in STAT orders
- Med reconciliation – duplicative, time consuming and often not completed
- ED received significant inpatient pushback during shift change



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## The Call to Action

### • Service Opportunity – System focus on ED crisis admission - lower HCAHPS scores

- Lost in the shuffle
- Transition to inpatient world poorly managed
  - ED RNs unable to answer inpatient questions
- Continuity of care – completing stat orders, adequate RN to RN hand-off



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## Brainstorming – October 2013

### • Status Quo not an option

- CNO/Director level discussion of potential workload solutions
- Developed concept and a name
  - “A Team” – group of leaders who address excellence on several levels and manage admission workload



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## Challenge to the CNO

- Budget neutral solution – modify RRT model to “A Team” with broadened scope
- Solution aimed to lessen workload across the hospital without inadvertently creating new problems
  - Efficiency – inpatient resource floating across units
- Couldn’t be viewed as a takeaway – needed to manage ALL perspectives of the change

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Kris Rabenold, MSN, RN, CNML  
Acute Care and Women & Children’s Director

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## Programmatic Must Haves

- Establish coverage of admissions
  - Capture 80% of all admits
  - Establish the vision before staffing the team
- Establish metrics to identify if we made a difference
  - Q12 survey – Included targeted questions around workload, patient satisfaction & quality of care

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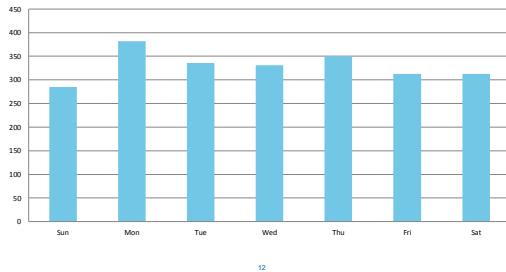
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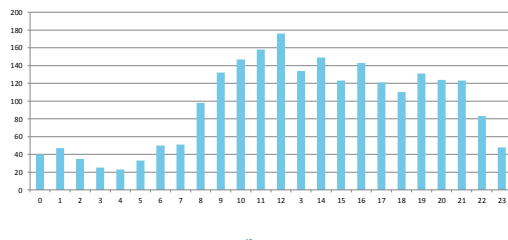
## ED Admissions by Day of Week

Admissions from ED by Day of Week  
Aug - Oct 2013



## ED Admissions by Hour/Day Prior to the "A Team"

Admissions from ED by Hour of Day  
Aug - Oct 2013



## Developing the "A Team"

### • Immediate Problems

- Current RRT nurses were not willing to change with the model - lost our RRT experience
  - Bedside leaders pulled into the noise of change
- Could not let history get in the way of innovation
- Where was this program going to be housed?
  - Vacant inpatient unit - patients moved many times
  - ED staff absorbed in emergency care - would interfere with throughput and patient flow

## Developing the “A Team”

- “A Team” Competency Considerations
  - PCU or ICU experienced RNs
  - ACLS and RRT trained
  - High performers
  - Flexible attitude and demeanor
  - Strong service skills
  - Appropriate documentation – new skill set
- Managing the worst-case scenario “what ifs”
  - Who was the safety net if several things occurring at once?



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## Developing the “A Team”

- Communication Clarity
  - Educating/hardwiring that all admissions are not facilitated by the “A Team”
  - Nurses on inpatient side still owned admission pieces
    - Orient to room, bed, call light, unit specific concerns, meal process, finish med reconciliation, and any clinical hand-off information
  - Developed the “Red Sheet” hand-off communication tool



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## “A Team” Checklist

A-Team Checklist		
Patient Label	Admit Unit/ Date & Time	
Height	Stated	Actual
Weight		
Allergies		
CPR		
Care Plan		
Med Rec		
W/Date & Time		
Tubing labelled		
Med medications		
Communications	If yes when	No
History of MESA	Yes when	No
Vital signs		
ERG in ED	Yes	No
Care Measure Checklist		
Education of admit orders		
Additional information for floor nurse		
Items left to complete admission		
RN Signature _____		
Natal phone numbers: Angela 77292/Michelle 77296/Anisa		

Not a part of the permanent medical record

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## Developing the “A Team”

- Managing our ICU Medical Director
  - Not happy the proactive RRT program was being modified
  - Strong working relationship with RRT personnel through history and mentoring
- Hiring, Onboarding and Developing “A Team”
  - ICU / A Team mentorship to RRT duties
    - ICU ran RRT for 6 weeks – “A Team” observed
    - “A Team” ran RRT for 1 month – ICU coaching

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## Developing the “A Team”

- Brainstormed roles and responsibilities
  - ED admissions only/not direct admits. Didn't want the “A Team” lost in the inpatient or ED side of workflow
  - RRT
  - Inpatient Code Sepsis, Code Stroke, Code Blue & Code Purple – internal support resource
  - Inpatient discharge resource if not busy
    - Dispatched by house supervisors

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## “A Team” Go Live Considerations January 2014

- Distinguished by Red Polo shirt
- ED team acceptance was a challenge initially
- Couldn't hear overhead for RRT/Code Blue calls while in ED patient rooms – special phone provided
- Needed access to ED documentation system

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## “A Team” Go Live Considerations

- Everyone wanted a “piece” of the “A Team”
  - Held firm boundaries – ED Med Dir, ICU, ED, Inpatient, Quality, Risk Management, Stroke Program
  - Remained true to the mission; helped “A Team” members feel comfortable with saying “no”
- “A Team” was slow to adapt to inpatient communication needs
- ED bedside leaders weren’t utilizing communication tools

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Anna Schlatter, BSN, RN  
Director of ED and Nursing Administration

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## Launching the “A Team” in the ED

- Concerns and Considerations
  - Space
  - Team dynamics
  - Patient flow / throughput in the ED
    - Would the admission process hold up moving patients out of the department in a timely manner?
    - Teaching the physicians to queue up the admission with the “A Team” early in the ED visit

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## Physician Considerations

- Early identification of admissions
  - Communication to “A Team” prior to written order
  - Scripting with patient / family – performing the admission incognito prior to physician communication
- Communication with physicians re: proper bed placement – always asking does this make sense?
- Ensuring physicians were not providing verbal orders directly to the “A Team”
- Requesting the “A Team” to transport patients

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## Bedside Leader Considerations

- Ensuring that ED staff and the “A Team” weren’t bombarding the patient at the same time – each serves different purposes
  - Developed team queues
- Managing the verbiage – observation status versus regular admit
- Who sits where? – turf considerations
- Computer availability – consider this early
- Requesting the “A Team” perform ED tasks

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## “A Team” Considerations

- Needed a “home” in the ED
  - Lockers, access to staff lounge, supply rooms, etc.
- “A Team” sick calls were covered RRT by ICU nurses - this was a point of irritation
- Team integration took time
  - Incoming “A Team” phone calls weren’t properly routed

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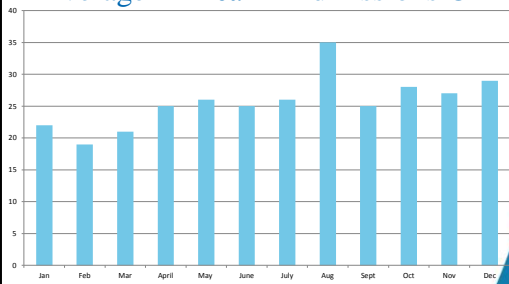
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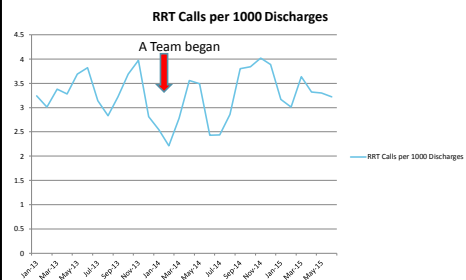
## Average “A Team” Admissions CY 14



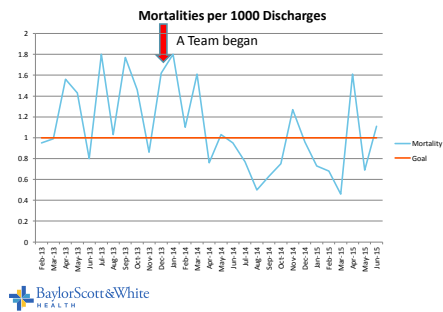
## Programmatic Outcomes

- RRT – Concern that the RRT model change would negatively impact the number of RRT calls – did not happen
- Mortality - Improved
- Right patient, right bed – Improved
- Patient Satisfaction / ED Crisis Admits - Improved
- Number of admissions captured by “A Team” – exceeded goal
- Q12 – Very positive results

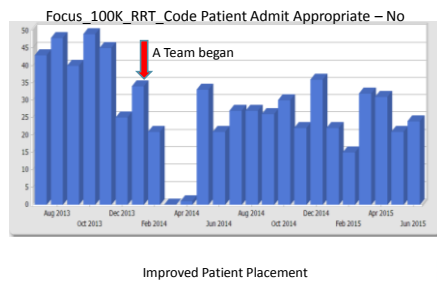
## RRT Trending with Model Change



## Mortality Trending

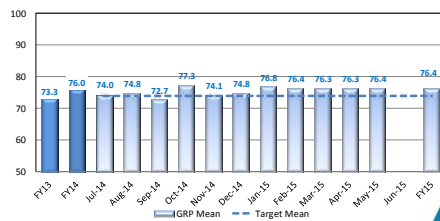


## Right Patient, Right Bed

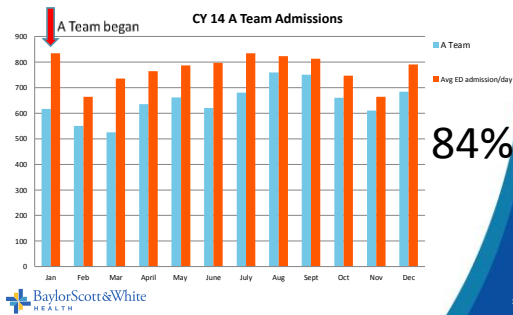


## ED Crisis Admits

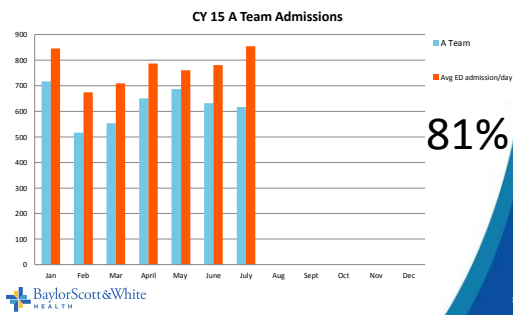
### HCAHPS Composite Mean Score



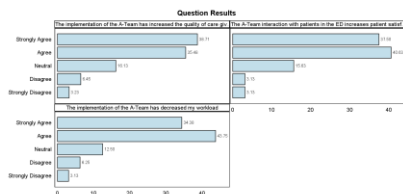
## Did We Capture 80% of Admits CY14?



## Did We Capture 80% of Admits CY 15?



## Q12 Results



## Pearls

- Think from the perspective of “What is in it for me?” when socializing to stakeholders
- Create the chaos on the front end
- Celebrate the wins - inpatient and ED bedside leaders were thrilled
- Don’t let history get in the way of innovation
- Lost one “A Team” member to the ED
  - Fell in love with the ED team and practice

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## Members of the “A Team”




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